

Minutes of Southern Utah Veterans' Home – Ivins, Advisory Board Meeting 5-1-13

Meeting was called to order on May 1, 2013 at 4:00 p.m. by Terry Schow the Executive Director of the Utah Department of Veterans' Affairs. Terry Schow asked each person to introduce themselves. The following individuals were in attendance:

Terry Schow, Executive Director Utah Department of Veterans' Affairs
Dennis McFall, Deputy Director, Utah Department of Veterans' Affairs
Jacqueline Peterson, State Officer, Staff to the Advisory Board
David Chung
Terry Dunne
Carole Grady
Lloyd Laycook
Ron Lee
Donna Lister
Bill Stay
WilliamC. Toole

Terry Schow introduced himself and talked about Avalon Healthcare who was awarded the contract to operate the nursing home. It was stated the veteran's homes are the latest and greatest of nursing homes with private rooms for veterans. Terry and Dennis have been involved with all nursing homes that were constructed in the state of Utah. Dedication of the nursing home will be on May 23, 2013 at 1:00 p.m. we expect hundreds of individuals will be at the dedication and what a great honor that will be to be a part of history.

Dennis McFall briefed those present on the role and purpose of the Advisory Board. Dennis expressed appreciation for each member of the board for their willingness to serve on this board. Dennis stated that the Advisory Board acts in an advisory capacity to the Executive Director of the Utah Department of Veterans' Affairs. He also explained that as a non-profit advisory board there is no legal liability to the individual members. Dennis also advised that the board can meet monthly or quarterly but recommended that the board meet monthly for the first few months (3-6) until all members are comfortable going to quarterly due to a number of issues can arise in the first months of operation.

Dennis then opened the floor for election of the Chair and Vice Chair. Terry Dunne nominated William C Toole and Bill Stay seconded the nomination. William C. Toole was then elected as the Chair. Nominations were then taken for Vice Chair. Terry Dunne nominated Lloyd Laycook and Donna Lister seconded the nomination. Lloyd Laycook was then elected as Vice Chair.

Bill Toole thanked the Advisory Board for their confidence in him as the Chair. The decision was made to hold future meetings on the second Wednesday of each month. The next meeting will be June 12th at 4:00 p.m. This action was moved, seconded and approved. The meeting will be at the nursing home in the future.

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A question was raised concerning the need for an oath of office to serve on the Advisory Board. Dennis explained that there may not be a need for an oath of office to serve, unless the governor's Office sends out a form to sign (which is basically an Oath) which they may do at some point.

A question was raised on the Open Meeting Laws. Terry Schow assured the members of the board that all notices of meetings, agenda items and the meeting minutes will be posted on the Department of Veterans' Affairs website. Jacqueline Peterson will act as minute's taker and insure the proper posting of the actions of the board.

Interface with the nursing programs Dixie State College and Southern Utah University. Carol asked about a clinical contract from Avalon Healthcare. Will provide a copy of the clinical contract and admission policy contract by next meeting.

Administrator for Avalon Healthcare will be Jerry Olson.

As board Members questions and concerns should through Jacqueline Peterson.

Questions from board members:

Current waiting list and who obtains it?

Kelsea S McVey, Avalon Healthcare, Director of Community Relations, (801) 334-4301, kmcvey@avalonhci.com

Who makes the decision of who goes in the nursing home?

Avalon makes the final decision of who goes in the facility after VA approval of eligibility.

Who staffs all the volunteers?

Avalon Healthcare

Avalon will have a comprehensive training through OJT. Training is required on an ongoing basis by the State of Utah Department of Health and the VA.

Long Term Care of the building?

Finances will be reported to the Advisory Board at least quarterly. One fund is the "Hold Back" fund. For each resident day that Per Diem is paid, the Veterans' Affairs office holds back \$10. These funds are used for projects to improve the Veterans' Home. The second fund is the Donation funds for the residents. All donated funds designated for the care of the veterans go into this fund. These funds can only be used for the care of the veterans and cannot be diverted.

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The Resident Council controls the expenditure of these funds.

Terry Schow talked about Veteran Service Officer who will be at the veteran's home to file claims and help family members file claims.

All veteran service organizations are welcome to use the VA nursing home for all meetings, just schedule those meetings with Jacqueline Peterson.

Future Meetings: 2nd Wednesday of every month.

June 12, 2013 at 4:00 p.m.

July 10, 2013 at 4:00 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m.